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"Just my luck, Friday the 13th."

the Quarterdeck

*Published weekly for the informational benefit of faculty,
staff and students of the Naval Postgraduate School*

Volume 4 Issue 6

February 13, 1987

Shuttle astronaut Gibson addresses safety class

"Challenger was an
accident that didn't
need to happen."

Just how important are Navy safety officers? Vitally important according to CDR Robert L. "Hoot" Gibson, a NASA astronaut and veteran of two shuttle flights. "The best use of a safety officer is to prevent an accident, not investigate one," he said.

As Gibson addressed a graduating class of the Aviation Safety Officer course at NPS last week, he referred to last year's explosion of the space shuttle Challenger as "an accident that didn't have to happen."

According to Gibson, NASA went from a research and development group to a flight-testing agency to operating an airline. Operational commitments and launch deadlines began to override safety considerations and "it cost us very dearly," he said.

Even before the Challenger accident, engineers who examined re-usable components of the shuttle had seen erosion in the booster rocket seals. He said that even the most basic trend analysis would have identified the eventual danger of this problem.

But such information tends to become filtered by various inspectors who deal with each component, so that the overall result comes across to the NASA director as no problem, Gibson said.

It's the responsibility of safety officers to look for problems in their incipient stages and to offer constructive solutions to those problems. Watch for filtering, he advised.

The Challenger accident might have been averted if past observations of damage to the seals in the booster rockets had been passed along to NASA administrators. Those launches never took place below a temperature of 40 degrees, while Challenger was launched in 28 or 29 degree weather to meet an operational commitment, he said.

As Gibson closed his speech he let the graduating class know that "we need you guys out there."

In brief...

Oceanography Prof. Albert Semtner has been appointed to the advisory committee for the Institute of Naval Oceanography. The committee, which is composed of about 12 senior scientists, provides input to INO on scientific issues, such as modeling strategies and the use of data with numerical models, and on organizational issues of the institute, Semtner said.

The Monterey Chapter of the American Society of Naval Engineers is sponsoring a photography contest. The theme of the contest is "Art in Engineering". The contest is opened to all NPS students, faculty and all Monterey ASNE members.

There will be a \$.50 entry fee and the entry deadline is Feb. 24.

For more information contact Gary Patch at 646-2033.

The consolidated package store is holding a moving sale on all inventory. The sale will continue through Feb. 28.



From the Superintendent

by RADM Robert C. Austin

The BOQ is this year's runner-up for the Zumwalt Award. A hearty congratulations!

While I've taken other means to recognize the individuals responsible, I feel that it is particularly important that we as a school recognize this accomplishment.

How does the BOQ get recommended amongst the best? First of all, I would say the enabling hallmark must be attitude -- an attitude of respect by the staff for the BOQ residents -- not only respect for the habitable conditions in which we expect them to live, but also respect for providing support that enables the residents to fulfill his mission and duties in a responsible manner. Nowhere does the need for such an attitude become more clearly evident and connected than here at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Bachelor officers at the school have demands on their time and requirements to put in hours of concentrated study. When the BOQ is operated in a manner that supports prompt resolution of problems, their ability to concentrate and accomplish the job at hand is enhanced. Our BOQ staff has

been judged as providing quarters that meet this criteria. Other criteria considered were:

- A willingness to devote their energies to ensuring that individual residents are well served.

- Properly coordinating the overall actions of the residents, vis-a-vis each other so that there is mutual respect between residents.

- Managing in an efficient and economical manner within the regulations that govern BOQ operations.

Some might say we have an advantage in the competition because we have the "old Del Monte Hotel." But I believe it was the BOQ staff's sincere orientation towards the needs of the residents that was judged first and foremost as the basis for the award.

I think that kind of attitude is vital to the command's mission. I extend my heartiest congratulations to the BOQ officer, LT Suzette O'Flaherty, her predecessor, LT Linda Ratsep, the assistant BOQ officer and the entire BOQ staff for a job superbly done.

From the Asst Dir Mil Ops

by CDR R.E. Hills

Recently, the housing manager brought to my attention a letter he had received from a La Mesa resident who expressed concern and displeasure over the "dismal sanitary conditions" in certain areas of La Mesa Village. The specific complaint dealt with pet owners who allowed their pets to "do their thing" in the common areas of La Mesa without having the courtesy of clean-ing up the mess.

The resident made some recommendations; they all involved security, public works or the housing office. I knew that I didn't want the security force following pet owners around, waiting for them to do something unauthorized. I wondered if I shouldn't just ignore the letter and send it back to the housing manager. Then I read RADM Austin's "Quarterdeck" article about picking up trash. I decided that, if he could pick up trash on the grounds, I could at least go to La Mesa and see if we

really had a problem.

I walked around Bergin Field and at first didn't see what the fuss was all about. Then I walked over toward the fence and saw the minefield that had been left by Spot, Fido, and Rex at 20 foot intervals. I knew that, if my kids played around here, they'd be off in the trees playing hide-and-go-seek and would be bringing home reminders of other people's carelessness. When I got back to my office I found that I had my own reminder of my trip to Bergin Field.

I know that it's not always convenient to carry around a spade, bag, or "pooper-scooper" when walking the dog. I know that my German shepherd doesn't always cooperate in place or time, but I do my best to ensure that "Lady" isn't part of the problem. I don't want to "go to GQ" over a problem that can be taken care of with just a little courtesy and common sense. I ask simply that you ensure that your pet isn't part of the problem either.

Civiscoop

The civilian personnel office is currently undergoing a major task of transferring all civilian official personnel folder information into a new computer system entitled "Naval Civilian Personnel Data System" (NCPDS). This conversion is expected to continue until March 9. During this time we advise that you call and make appointments to ensure the individual you want to see will be available. We would like apologize at this time for any inconvenience this may cause our customers.

Federal employees retirement system (FERS) Notification of personnel action forms (SF-50) have been completed for most employees who will be converted to the FERS system. We are currently calculating pay for the one (1) percent contribution to the thrift savings plan. You can expect to receive your copy of the SF-50 and an accompanying letter by the end of Feb. POC: Lane Bednash, ext. 3277.

New Employees: Welcome to **Lewis E. Chiado**, family services advocate; **Edward Spencer**, administrator of EMD; **Jack Farrell**, public works; **Theresa A. Gilbert**, meteorology; **Beverley K. Linser**, admin science; **Rodney Bartsch**, PSD; and **Evelyn Russell**, physics.

Vacancy Announcements: Applications for the following vacancies are now being accepted in the Civilian Personnel Office. For further information consult the vacancy announcement in your department or call ext. 2001.

Clerk typist, GS-4, (various departments); **computer programmer analyst**, GS-11, FNOC; **engineering technician**, GS-5/6/7/8/9, physics department; **engineering technician**, GS-5, (2 vacancies), physics; **librarian**, GS-9, library; **purchasing agent**, GS-5/6, supply; **purchasing agent**, GS-6/7, supply; **secretary (typing)**, GS-3/4/5/6/7, various departments; **supervisory librarian**, GS-12, library; **support services specialist**, GS-6 or GS-7, computer center; **support services supervisor**, GS-7/8/9, admin science.

Local area training courses

Title	Date	Eligible	Cost
Secretarial Seminar	Mar. 9	Clerical/Sec	\$49
Effective Interviewing	Mar. 11	Supervisors	\$90
Image & Self-Projection	Mar. 19	All employees	\$48
Motivation/Productivity	Mar. 27	Supervisors	\$90
Coping as a Working Parent	Apr. 3	All employees	\$90

(For more information contact Liz Clark)

MPC hosts film gallery

If you like classic films, then you may want to take part in the MPC film gallery, sponsored by the MPC Film Society. On Feb. 21, "Notorious" (a classic Alfred Hitchcock film) will be shown.

The films will be shown at the MPC theater at 2000. For more information contact Dan Gallagher at 646-1678.

Campus Calendar

FEBRUARY

-13-

1100-1400, HERRMANN HALL
OSWC SWEETHEART BAKE SALE

1100, SP-321

DR. RAMA CHELLAPA,
UNIV. OF SO. CALIFORNIA
"RELAXATION ALGORITHMS FOR
MAP RESTORATION OF
GRAY LEVEL IMAGES"

1110, SP-117

DR. MICHAEL E. MELICH,
NAVSEA PROF. OF COMBAT
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, NPS
"CHARACTERIZING DISTRIBUTED
MEASUREMENT INSTRUMENTS"

1200, LA NOVIA ROOM
NPS TOASTMASTERS
(POC: PAT KELLY, 647-4363)

-16 TO 26-

IN-221

MARINE CORPS PRACTICAL
COMPTROLLERSHIP COURSE
(POC: MAJ HUDSON, X2401)

-17-

1510, IN-260

OFFICER STUDENT ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING

1600, SP-101

DR. SIDNEY DRELL,
STANFORD LINEAR ACCELERATOR
"STAR WARS AND ARMS CONTROL"

-17 TO 19-

KING HALL, SP-101A

U.S. ARMY TACTICAL COMMAND
CONFERENCE
(POC: CINDY MAFFEI, X2426)

-19-

1100-1400, LA NOVIA TERRACE
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
ART EXHIBIT
(POC: LT BRINKLEY, X2174)

-20-

1200, LA NOVIA ROOM
NPS TOASTMASTERS
(POC: PAT KELLY, 647-4363)

Military awards

The superintendent will present the following awards in a ceremony to be held today in the Quarter-deck Lounge at 1430.

Navy Commendation Medal
LT Ruth Graham, USN

Navy Achievement Medal
LT Craig D. Hanson, USN
LT Sinclair M. Harris, USN
LT Francis F. Randolph, USN
LT George F. Schleck, USN

Pea Henn on report

It was a fowl night last week when a NPS pea hen, one of two given to the school at Christmas, went over the hill, skipping campus and somehow making her way to Santa Catalina School. Below is the report chit filled out by one of the investigating peacock patrol officers.

NAVPERS 1626 7, REV 8 811 B, NO 108 LF 018 2838

To: Commanding Officer.

Date of Report: 4 February 1987

I hereby report the following named person for the offense(s) noted:

NAME OF ACCUSED Pea (NMI) Henn	SERIAL NO. USDA # 1 prime	SOCIAL SECURITY NO. \$8.75/1b	DATE GRADE AA	DD & CLASS fauna	SUBJECT Waterfowl
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PLACE OF OFFENSE(S)

Naval Postgraduate School Monterey CA

DATE OF OFFENSE(S)

On or about 5 January 1987

DETAILS OF OFFENSE(S) (Refer by article of UCMJ, if known. If unauthorized absence, give following info: time and date of commencement, whether over leave or liberty, time and date of apprehension or surrender and arrival on board, loss of ID card and/or liberty card, etc.)

Article 86 A Fowl Deed

Pea (NMI) Henn did, on or about 5 January 1987 absent herself from her place of duty to wit: assigned patrol area, east side of Package Store. This dereliction of duty denied conjugal benefits to fellow fowl and generally upset the natural order of things.

Additionally, Pea (NMI) Henn has been seen loitering and panhandling rations from civilians at Santa Catalina School, while presenting a disorderly and unkempt appearance. In short, she chickened out.

NAME OF WITNESS	RATE/GRADE	DIV/DEPT	NAME OF WITNESS	RATE/GRADE	DIV/DEPT
Pea (NMI) Cock	AA	W/F			

(Rate/Grade/Title of person submitting report)

(Signature of person submitting report)

I have been informed of the nature of the accusation(s) against me. I understand I do not have to answer any questions or make any statement regarding the offense(s) of which I am accused or suspected. However, I understand any statement made or questions answered by me may be used as evidence against me in event of trial by court-martial (Article 31, UCMJ).

Witness: Col. Maxian Sanders (bird expert cum laude) Acknowledged: Y Y suspect's footprints (Signature of Accused)

PRE-TRIAL RESTRAINT ☐ PRE TRIAL CONFINEMENT ☐ RESTRICTED: You are restricted to the limits of cooped up in lieu of arrest by order of the CO. Until your status as a restricted person is terminated by the CO, you may not leave the restricted limits except with the express permission of the CO or XO. You have been informed of the times and places which you are required to muster.

(Signature and title of person imposing restraint)

(Signature of Accused)

INFORMATION CONCERNING ACCUSED

CURRENT ENL. DATE	EXPIRATION CURRENT ENL. DATE	TOTAL ACTIVE NAVAL SERVICE	TOTAL SERVICE ON BOARD	EDUCATION	GCT	AGE
	when tender	3 wks		bird calls		
HABITUAL STATUS	NO. DEPENDENTS	CONTRIBUTION TO FAMILY OR OTHER ALLOWANCE (Amount required by law)	PLR PER MONTH (including sea or foreign duty pay, if any)			
	?	seed money	draws flight pay			

RECORD OF PREVIOUS OFFENSE(S) (Date, type, action taken, etc. Nonjudicial punishment incidents are to be included.)

none - this way a clean bird ...

Rec news

Disneyland tickets are now on sale at the rec office. The price is \$16.25. That's a savings of \$3.75. However the tickets are good only for the weekdays.

The Fort Ord discount coupon books are on sale for \$5 at the rec office. The coupons are good for many restaurants in the local area.

Today is your last chance to enter a team in the NPS Men's slo pitch tournament which will be held Feb. 20-22 and March 1. Entry fee is \$125. For more information contact the rec office or base gym.

A local softball team is looking for experienced men fast pitch softball players. For more information call Joe at 375-0866.

The NPS women's softball team is looking for some experienced fast pitch softball players. For more information call Frank at ext. 2466/7

Are you looking for a place to swim? During the period that the Fort Ord and NPS pools are closed (Oct-Apr) all active duty personnel who wish to swim at the Seaside pool may come to the rec office and purchase a discount pool pass. The daily pass is \$1 a day or \$17.50, monthly.

Pool hours are: Monday thru Friday 0600-0800, 1130-1330, and 1800-1900. On Saturdays the pool is open from 1230-1400.

Beginning March 7, the pool will be opened longer on Saturday. The new hours will be from 1000-1700 for a two month trial basis.

Classified ads

RX-7 GS FOR SALE: 1984 RX-7 GS: moving overseas, must sell. Steel blue, only 13K miles, 5 speed, AM/FM/cassette, AC, cruise control, sunroof, cover. \$10,250. Contact Douglas Smith at 649-0292.

CHEVY FOR SALE: 1980 Chev Monza, low mileage am-fm cassette deck, new tires car is in excellent codo. \$1800. Contact Jim at 757-7216.

WEDDING GOWN: Flattering gown and floor length veil by Bianci of New York. Size 6-8, not used, cost \$1,800 asking \$225 or best offer. Call Cynthia at 663-5650.

FOR SALE: 1977 Plymouth Valare show room condition, 50,200 miles. \$2,500 firm price. Call Casey ext. 2665.

FOUND: Pearl earring between Hermann Hall and Root Hall. Contact Lt. Call, Admin Science Dept. ext. 2536.

MOVING SALE: 19ft boat, 125hp engine, round umbrella table, assorted children clothes and toys. For more information call 649-5207.

PIANO FOR SALE: Baldwin piano 40" console, walnut almost new \$2750, for more information call 375-4227.